

RAPID ADVANCE OF PERSIAN FORCES INTO AZERBAIJAN

British Tourists Embarrass Swiss Government

London, Dec. 10. The Swiss Government recently informed the British Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Hugh Dalton, that the extent of British tourist expenditure was causing them some embarrassment and that they wished to exercise some control over it.

Disclosing this in the House of Commons to-day, Mr Dalton said he saw no reason to object to their proposals especially in view of the increasing facilities for spending holidays in other countries.

Mr Dalton was answering a Conservative member, Col Erroll, who had asked what were the revised exchange arrangements for British tourists in Switzerland.

Mr Dalton said he would circulate details later.

When Col Erroll asked how long these restrictions would last, the Chancellor of the Exchequer replied: "I should think indefinitely," and added with laughter: "At any rate, long enough for members of Parliament to explore the possibilities of the French Alps, the Italian Alps, the Carpathians, the Pyrenees and the Highlands of Scotland."

He later gave details of the arrangements whereby, as from December 18, a special Swiss certificate would be required for the allocation of funds for tourists and for their conversion to Swiss francs.

He added that it was not intended to impose similar limitations on Swiss visitors to Britain.—Reuters.

French Cabinet Formation Deadlock

Paris, Dec. 10. France's leading political parties tried twice, without success, to break the stalemate on picking a new premier, and hopes of a new Cabinet by the weekend dimmed.

Party chiefs met for three hours this morning and two hours later conferred with the National Assembly President, M. Vincent Auriol, but failed to make headway on the main essential.

In the morning, an agreement in principle on the forming of a four-party coalition of Communists, Socialists, Republican Union and MRP, headed probably by a Socialist or a Left Republican, was reached, but in the second meeting there was no gain beyond that.

MRP leaders favoured the formation of a permanent all-party coalition government and were joined by the Left Republican Union in opposition to a four-party coalition.

The Socialists were reported to be favouring a temporary government merely to pass the budget.—United Press.

"WHITE AUSTRALIA" POLICY ATTACKED

New York, Dec. 10. A sharp attack by India and China against the "White Australia" policy of discrimination was the feature of this morning's discussions on the amendment to the New Guinea draft trusteeship agreement of the United Nations Trusteeship Committee.

China asked that there should be no racial discrimination on racial grounds in New Guinea.

The Indian representative said: "There is an Australian law, known as the White Australia Law, which excludes Asiatics from Australian-controlled territories. This causes irritation in Asiatic countries. If Asiatics were expected to share in the hardships and responsibilities of war, they must also have equal rights in peace."

The Australian representative replied that the question of equal rights had already been covered fully in the Charter and he saw no reason why a separate clause was required in the agreement. Paramount consideration in the Charter was pro-

PENETRATION OF TWENTY-FIVE MILES AT ONE POINT

DEMOCRATS' LEADER CALLS PROVINCE TO ARMS

TEHERAN, DEC. 10.
UNCONFIRMED REPORTS STATE THAT GOVERNMENT TROOPS INVADING AZERBAIJAN HAVE CAPTURED MAINEH, THE FIRST LARGE TOWN ON THEIR ROUTE INSIDE THE SEMI-AUTONOMOUS PROVINCE, ADJOINING SOVIET RUSSIA.

An informant said that advancing columns repaired a wrecked bridge over the river of the Golden Swimmer, penetrated the strategic Ghaflan-kuh mountain pass and plunged five miles beyond, to take the town.

Jafa Pishevari, leader of the Azerbaijan Democrats, in an appeal broadcast over the Tabriz radio, called on the people and armed forces of the Azerbaijan to go to the front and fight against the Central Government.

Persia's Chief of General Staff earlier to-day reported that the Government troops had advanced 25 miles, inflicting heavy casualties on Azerbaijan forces and capturing many prisoners.

Nearly 24 hours after the first frontier crossing, the Chief of Staff said a general advance continued in all sectors.

Teheran authorities had reported earlier that their units were massed along the entire length of the Azerbaijan frontier. The greatest advance into Azerbaijan was attributed to the column moving out of the Takab area on the frontier. The penetration of 25 miles in less than fully a day indicated that whatever

INDIA STATEMENT POSTPONED

London, Dec. 10. It was officially announced that the Prime Minister, Mr Clement Attlee, had postponed making the statement on India in the House of Commons until to-morrow. The decision apparently was taken after the Cabinet meeting this morning, at which Mr Attlee gave full details of last week's talks with the Viceroy of India and four Indian political leaders.

It is understood that Mr Attlee will consult with Opposition members with a view to seeking deferment of the debate in the Commons, which was scheduled for Thursday and Friday, pending developments at the Indian Constituent Assembly in New Delhi.

Some quarters believe the Commons debate on India might be abandoned entirely unless Mr Winston Churchill exerts opposition pressure.—United Press.

Jews Raid Arab Defence Group Headquarters

Jerusalem, Dec. 10.

Four Jews, armed with automatic weapons, raided the headquarters of the Nazzada-Arab Defence organisation—in Jaffa, last night.

After searching the premises the raiders carried off a number of leaflets, a police bulletin said to-day.

This raid by the Jewish underground movement has aroused considerable feeling among the Arabs.

Mohamed Nima Majari, the "commander-in-chief" of the Nazzada, said to-night: "Only the strict discipline maintained inside the Nazzada movement has prevented immediate reprisals in Tel Aviv against the raid on our headquarters."

He declared that Jews had recently kidnapped a member in Tel Aviv and removed him bound and gagged to Rishon, nine miles away.

"After questioning him about Nazzada, the Jews took our man by lorry to Rishon in southern Palestine and left him lying helpless on the roadside. He was saved by a passing Bedouin."

Majari added that he had asked permission to arm a number of Nazzada's staff officers for protection of the headquarters.

An unknown person hurled a hand-grenade at a Greek Orthodox church building in Jerusalem's walled Old City last night, a police bulletin stated to-day.

There were no casualties and no damage.—Reuters.

INDIAN ASSEMBLY CHAIRMAN SELECTED

New Delhi, Dec. 10.

Dr Rajendra Prasad was nominated without opposition for chairmanship of India's Constituent Assembly to-day. His formal election will be to-morrow.

Prasad, the Food Minister of the Interim Government of India. He is a member of the predominantly Hindu All-India Congress Party.

His nomination was followed by a boisterous second-day session, in contrast with Monday's solemn opening of the Assembly.

There were several lively debates over resolutions finally approved for establishing a Rules Committee and adopting rules of the Central Legislative Assembly pending the formulation of Constituent Assembly rules.—Associated Press.

Charge Against Bickerton Withdrawn

The allegations against William Maxwell Bickerton of snatching a watch from R. Element, of HMS Penn, were withdrawn by the prosecution which stated that an apology has been tendered to Bickerton for the mistake made.

Bickerton, defended by Mr D. B. Evans, was alleged to have snatched the watch from Element in Queen's Road Central, near the junction of Garden Road, on December 3.

Inspector Sell told Mr Sheldon, before whom Bickerton was originally charged, that he had gone thoroughly into the evidence of the case and obviously a mistake had been made. He said Element also now agreed that a mistake had been made and was ready to make an apology for the mistake. He asked for withdrawal of the case.

Mr Evans said Bickerton appeared on a serious charge which was reported in the newspapers. He added: "I would ask that the reporters should give as much publicity to the withdrawal of the charge as they did when Bickerton last appeared."

Mr Evans said Bickerton is a responsible person and those who knew him must have realised the charge was fantastic. It is therefore desirable that notice should be given to the withdrawal of the charge.

Mr Sheldon, who said he knew Bickerton, expressed gladness that the matter was cleared up in this way, adding: "I am sure the press will give all the publicity they can about this matter."

Many Countries Will Need Aid During 1947

Washington, Dec. 10. The Director General of UNRRA, Mr Fiorello La Guardia, told the 48-nation UNRRA Council that the international relief agency was making every effort to wind up its affairs on schedule, but warned that many countries would continue to need help through 1947.

The U. S. Acting Secretary of State, Mr Dean Acheson, urged the Council to keep alive the initial spirit with which it undertook its relief job, even though it was now passing the work to other hands.

Mr La Guardia said UNRRA's job was completed on November 18. He said the status of supplies ordered by UNRRA but not delivered was under review.

These which could not be delivered on time would be cancelled.

The Director said UNRRA received US\$3,603,53,678 from member countries by November 15. Of this \$1,332,700,070 were committed for \$429,710,811 for clothing and textiles, \$684,707,331 for industrial goods, \$342,586,528 for agricultural rights in Dairen, including the city proper as well as the port will be under the complete jurisdiction of the Chinese Central Government.

The paper added that Nationalist troops have been marking time outside of Dairen during the past 10 days of the negotiations. It indicated that once an agreement is announced there is every likelihood the Nationalist troops will parade into this biggest south Manchurian port without a clash with the Communists who, in the meantime, have been evacuating the city in small boats to Shantung Peninsula.—United Press.

U. S. Surplus Ships Bought By China

Shanghai, Dec. 10. Local Chinese shipping companies, both state-operated and private, will soon receive a total of 155 American surplus ships amounting to about 800,000 tons purchased by the Government from the United States, according to Mr Li Yun-lang, Secretary-General of the Shanghai Steamship Companies' Guild. The ships will be used as compensation for war losses, and distributed equally to various shipping companies, he said.

The new purchases will place China's shipping tonnage to 1,500,000 tons, which will be more than sufficient to meet the demands of domestic navigation. Chinese shipping companies are also contemplating setting up ocean-going lines in the near future, beginning with the establishment of a line between the South Seas areas and China.

An increase in shipping fares on various coastal and inland lines, which has been approved by the Government, will come into effect on December 15. The increased fares are calculated on the basis of CN\$50 per Li (about 3d of a mile) for 4th class passengers.

Central News.

Important Red City In North Kiangsu Falls

Nanking, Dec. 11. Government troops stormed into the city of Yenching in North Kiangsu at 8 a.m. yesterday morning and fierce street fighting is progressing, according to the Hsin Min Pao.

Yenching is the southern anchor of the 100-mile Communist line

which runs to Shuyang via Hsuying, north-east of the Grand Canal and south of the Lungshu Railway.

The paper said the Government troops advancing from Chinan-sing, Wayching and Tukang-towns, surrounded and took Yenching—blasted into the suburbs and forced their way into the city where they are encountering stiff resistance.

It said the complete occupation of Yenching would pave the way for a Government drive on Ningbo, 28 miles north-west of Yenching, which is an important Communist base.

ACCOUNTS UNFROZEN

We are informed that the National City Bank and The Chase Bank have unfrozen all pre-war accounts.

Yenching, miles north-west of Yenching, which is an important Communist base.

Henan Fighting

Peking, Dec. 9. Fighting was renewed in North Honan recently when 80,000 Communists, under the command of Liu Po-cheng from Laihun, on the north-east border of Honan, attacked the cities of Anyang and Huansien.

Central News.

Hengchun Falls to Reds

Talyuan, Dec. 10. The Yellow River town of Hengchun, in southern Shansi, near the Honan border, was occupied by Communist troops last night according to reports received here to-day.

Central News.

Agreement For Taking Over Of Dairen

Peking, Dec. 10. Sino-Soviet negotiations for the taking over of Dairen by Nationalist troops are nearing conclusion to-day with an agreement in principle already reached on all important points, according to the Social Welfare Daily.

The paper said negotiations have been taking place both in Antung and at a certain place in North Korea. Presumably the main negotiators are Gen Ivan Chistiakov, commander-in-chief of Soviet forces in North Korea, whose headquarters are in Antung, and Gen Chou Kung-wei, Nationalist garrison commander of Antung. Shinghsing and Antung are border cities across the Yalu River and linked by the International Bridge.

The three main points on which agreement was reached were listed as: (1) Dairen will be a free port under Chinese Nationalist administration in which ships of all nations can enjoy equal privileges;

(2) the Soviets will be granted, however, special docking and warehouse rights; (3) all administrative rights in Dairen, including the city proper as well as the port will be under the complete jurisdiction of the Chinese Central Government.

The paper added that Nationalist troops have been marking time outside of Dairen during the past 10 days of the negotiations. It indicated that once an agreement is announced there is every likelihood the Nationalist troops will parade into this biggest south Manchurian port without a clash with the Communists who, in the meantime, have been evacuating the city in small boats to Shantung Peninsula.—United Press.

(Continued on Page 4)

Rebel Labour Group Dissatisfied With Representation Abroad

CALL FOR FEWER CAREER DIPLOMATS

London, Dec. 10. The British Government is facing another revolt by a strong and influential section of the Parliamentary Party who are not only dissatisfied with many aspects of British policy, but also with the handling of British diplomatic affairs by permanent officials at the Foreign Office.

The rebel group, which is the same as that responsible for staging the recent foreign policy revolt, have now got on their side an external affairs group of the Parliamentary Labour Party, which consists of nearly 40 members of Parliament, very few of whom can legitimately be described as being either very much to the Left or "crypto-Communists."

The External Affairs group had a meeting last night and among other things, decided to ask the Prime Minister, Mr Clement Attlee, several questions

on reports that have been published in the American press quoting British official sources,

particularly the War Office, for saying that British and American Governments have agreed to standardise military equipment.

London, Dec. 10. Two hundred British ex-Servicemen, including paratroopers, have volunteered to fight Gen Franco in the ranks of the International Brigade, should the brigade decide to return to Spain, said Miss Nancy Green, the National Secretary of the Brigade, in an interview to-day.

Questions have been asked in the House of Commons about these reports and the answers are considered to have been thoroughly unsatisfactory to many members of the External Affairs group who are now planning their private approach to the Premier. If this private approach fails they intend to raise the matter at a full meeting of the Parliamentary Labour party and, after that, if necessary, in the House of Commons itself.

"We have had to send a circular letter to these people declining their offer," Miss Green added.

"Although many of the applications came from ex-soldiers who could not settle down as civilians, a great number had genuine desires to finish with General Franco."

Miss Green made it clear that the International Brigade had absolutely no intention that International Brigades in any country should reform for the purpose of fighting in Spain.

Miss Green worked for 16 months as a medical organiser on the Ebro front—from July, 1937, to November, 1939. She lost her husband in Europe when it came into power in November, 1939. She re-married after her husband died.

They want a complete reform of the Foreign Office staff with fewer career diplomats and more direct Labour Party influence in the Office.

They propose that to accomplish this a Labour Party committee should be appointed to put the views of the Party before the Foreign Secretary and thus influence British foreign policy.

At the same time, trade union members of Parliament are urging the Government to release more men from the forces for industry and are pointing out that the export drive, on which the whole of Britain's prosperity depends, cannot reach the desired level unless the manpower shortage is overcome.

The Foreign policy of the Labour Party is linked with this because the party has been urging, on the

(Continued on Page 4)

BRITISH ULTIMATUM TO ALBANIA

SHOWING
TO-DAY

KINGS

At 2.30, 5.10,
7.15 & 9.15 p.m.SHOWING
TO-DAY

QUEENS

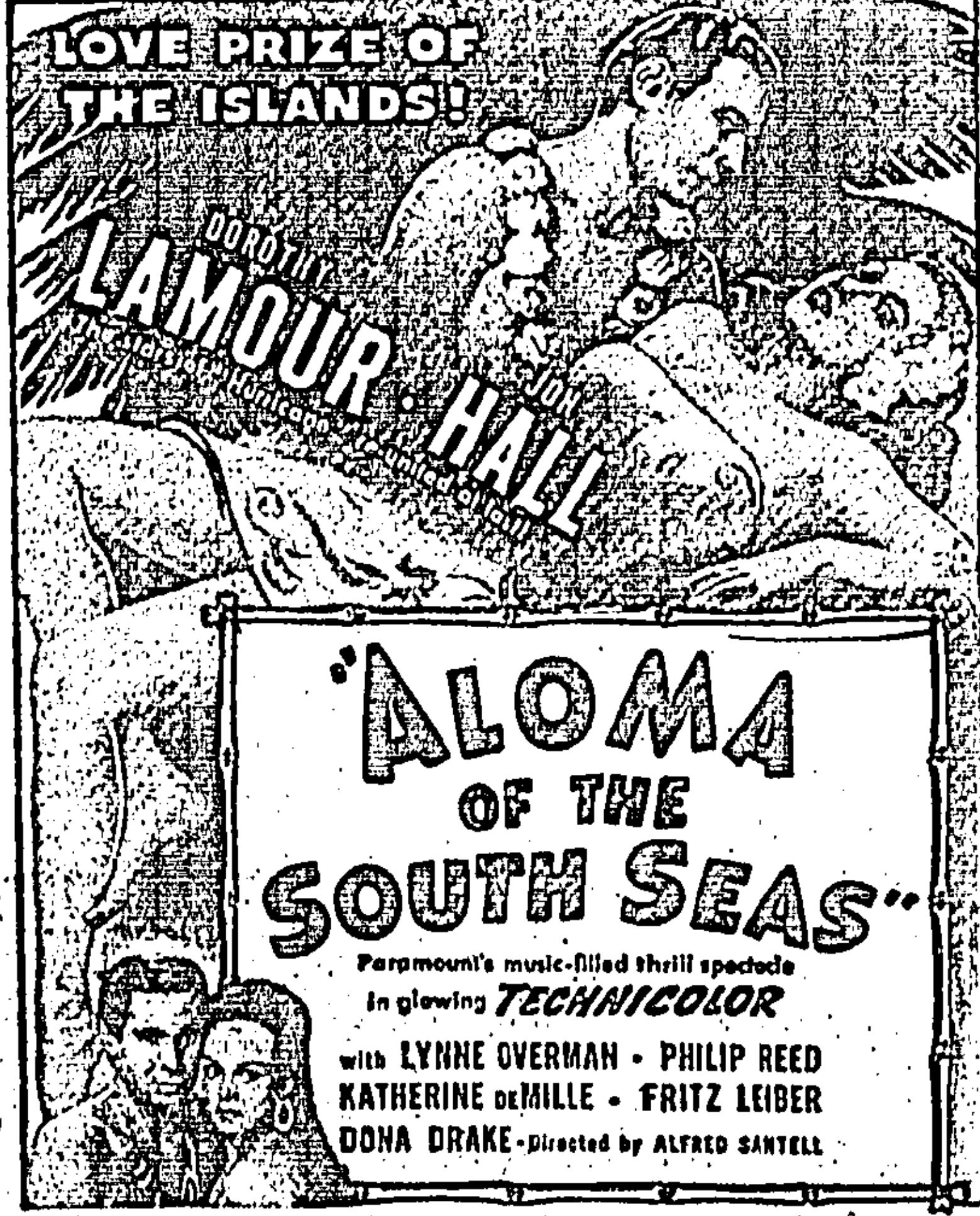
At 2.30, 5.15,
7.15 & 9.15 p.m.Latest March of Time
ADDED! "WANTED—MORE HOMES"

CENTRAL &

ALHAMBRA

DAILY AT 2.30 5.15 7.15 & 9.15 P.M. DAILY AT 2.30 5.15 7.15 & 9.15 P.M.

SHOWING TO-DAY

TO-DAY &
TO-MORROW

MAJESTIC

At 2.30, 5.20,
7.20 & 9.20
P.M.

A MERRY WHIRL OF LOVE AND LAUGHTER!

Marlene
DIETRICHFred
MacMURRAY

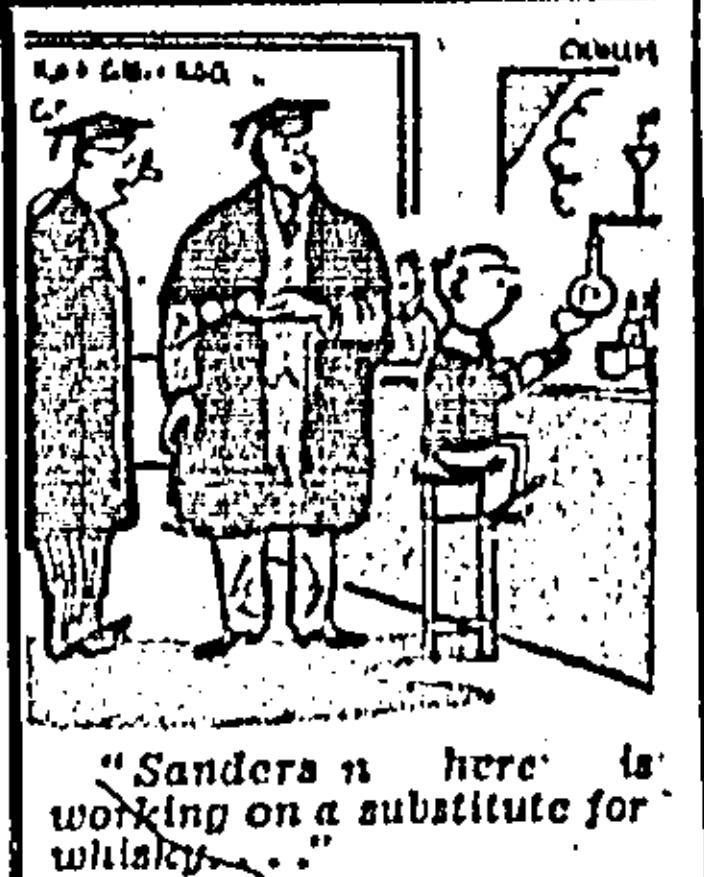
IN

"THE LADY IS WILLING"

A COLUMBIA PICTURE

NEXT CHANGE: "WHITE SAVAGE"

POCKET CARTOON

ITALIAN
POLITICSLEFT-RIGHT
SHOWDOWN
IMMINENTBy John McKnight
of the Associated Press

Rivalries of her public men appears to be pushing Italy inexorably towards a long-predicted showdown between the fast-coalescing Right and Left.

A house divided against itself since the Republic edged out the Savoy monarchy in the June 2 plebiscite, Italy has marvelled at the political acrobatics which have kept Premier Alcide De Gasperi's four-party government precariously perched on the tight-rope of power.

Now, however, there are many who agree that the chief factor in the difficult balance—the desire to keep the balance—is disappearing.

Socialist Foreign Minister Pietro Nenni, ardent exponent of joint action with the Communists, seems ready to kick the four-party combine to pieces and to try to set up a workers' government.

And if De Gasperi's middle-of-the-road Christian Democrats, disgusted with four months of attempting to work with the Left, are not actually standing on the doorstep of the Right, they certainly are moving in that direction.

COMPLICATION

To complicate matters, the little Republican Party, fourth group represented in the government, is reported to be preparing to pull its two ministers out of the Cabinet.

Recent events sharpening personal and political animosities and furthering the contestation of political elements into the Right and Left were these:

1. Nenni's speech at La Spezia in which he demanded an early conquest of power for the workers and asserted that in no other way could the "choice of war or re-crudescence of fascism" be averted.

2. A statement by the under-secretary to De Gasperi that the Christian Democrat Party would not "leave to the extreme Left, a minority in the country, the direction of the government."

3. A speech by Attilio Piccioni, general secretary of the Christian Democrats, in which he charged that the Communists were waging a war of nerves and declared that the Christian Democrats now were "quite oriented toward a renascent right."

4. Victory by the Leftists in the municipal elections.

5. Unbated animosities between De Gasperi and the Communist Party leader, Palmiro Togliatti, over the latter's "private mission" to Belgrade to talk over Indo-Yugo-Slav relations with Marshal Tito. De Gasperi called the "mission" "ill-timed" and resented Togliatti's reporting to the Communist press before he did so to the government.

CONDITIONS

With Christian Democrat committees meeting throughout the country to clarify the party's position, an early resolution of the situation seems likely.

If the Christian Democrats looked for the support of the Right, Piccioni said it would be on these conditions:

1. There be no thought of fascist or non-fascist resurgence.

2. The right to abandon "the spirit of social reaction."

3. The issue of the Monarchy versus the Republic not be raised again.

These conditions could narrow the field.

Most potent Right Wing group on the basis of recent balloting is the Comite Quisqueya movement. Some of its orators have made plain their esteem for certain parts of the Fascist government.

INDIA-CHINA
PIPELINE

The Chinese National Highway Administration has been ordered to assume the management and care of the India-China oil pipeline built during the war, according to a report carried by the semi-official United Credit Information Bureau, reports Reuter.

This 1,150-mile pipeline, described as the longest in the world, has not been used since the end of the war. It runs from Kunming to Calcutta, and carried a daily load of 1,000 barrels during the war years.

The mandate to the Highway Administration from the Ministry of Communications is to keep the pipeline constantly in an operable state. To fulfill this order the Administration has decided to divide the line into sections for supervisory work, to assign technical personnel to each section and to have inspections made of each section three times a month.

PAUL HOLT IN HOLLYWOOD

A Fleet Street man writes from the Celluloid City—quotes Darryl Zanuck; attends a party for the Rex Harrisons; dines with Ann Todd; but sees the 'Smog'

presented to the nervous and sweating producer showing him what's right and wrong with his brain.

Foolery here, which nobody so far seems to have noticed, is that bored watchers dial all kinds of signals while enthralled ones forget to dial at all. The perfect audience reaction clearly would be an empty graph, but that, I'm afraid, would hardly satisfy a producer.

an intermittent composure, while such old fogeys as David Niven and Cedric Hardwick went unnoticed. Indeed, Ann Todd has every blessing but work. She is still waiting to appear in Hitchcock's next, "The Paradine Case," with Gregory Peck.

The strike has closed the studio, and poor Todd finds that, according to her contract, she must go unpaid until the picture starts.

With the scant expenses allowed her by the British Treasury, she finds this far from a land of plenty, and will probably join the studio picketeers soon.

Phyllis Calvert is feeling equally frustrated. Two months and more now she arrived here to make Rachel Field's "Time Out of Mind," directed by Robert Siodmak. Not a foot of film has been shot yet.

"I love it here, but with this muddle I might just as well be in England. There doesn't seem to be any difference," says Miss Calvert, ruefully but full of hope.

ON A STRIKE

POVERTY, as is usual, walks side by side with riches in this misty town. A sad strike has been going on. Pickets have been patrolling outside the studio gates for several weeks now. Occasionally there is bloodshed and even deaths from the clashes that occur.

I have not so far been stopped at a picket line. They take one look at me and let me through. I can't say this is very flattering.

The strike is not for better wages, but a battle for power between the two rival unions in the studios, and the strikers, who do not rightly understand the issues involved, are again mortgaging their homes, selling their cars to keep going.

They are compelled by their union bosses to picket, and are liable to a fine of up to £20 if they do not.

The studios, which are producing many films anyway for these boom times, proceed at about half-speed, unperturbed.

Talk of the town is the salary he Duke of Windsor will draw when he comes here as an associate producer. The favourite I hear is £75,000 a year.

I don't believe a word of it, but it keeps people happy and does little harm.

Secondary topic is the New English colony, a thrill and an excitement and hugely popular.

Leading the parade are Mr and Mrs Rex Harrison, who have shot to the top like rockets. Mr Harrison was so successful with "Anna and the King of Siam" that he has been given the great Gene Tierney as his next leading woman.

Mrs Harrison (Lilli Palmer) played so charmingly with Gary Cooper in "Cloak and Dagger" that she is being given Humphrey Bogart as a reward.

ON A PARTY

THERE is one golden rule to be followed in Hollywood—you do not mention the war. It never happened.

When a man is telling you what he has been doing since you saw him last in the 'thirties, he will say: "Oh, I carried on and so forth until 1941 or so, and then I went away for a couple of years or so, and now I'm back at the old job."

At a birthday party in Beverly Hills given by Mrs Bob Hope all the guests were women. After the cocktails had passed around names appeared bearing the bables of some of the guests, who were passed around, too.

American Music
Has Arrived

By Jane Eads

Carlos Moseley, a blond young man from Spartanburg, South Carolina, a former concert pianist, who is a music specialist for the U.S. State Department's Office of International Information and Cultural Affairs, says that while the work of the past generation of American composers was derived from European music, the new music is undoubtedly "fresh, dynamic and vigorous."

The Prague International Festival last Spring was reluctant to arrange special American concerts, due to the general belief that American national music "had not really developed yet."

"This view has been completely changed," says Moseley. "American music won a great and resounding triumph in this ancient seat of musical tradition and culture."

He reports that Ultraphone, the most prominent of Czechoslovak recording companies now wants to do an introductory series of American works, including orchestral and chamber music.

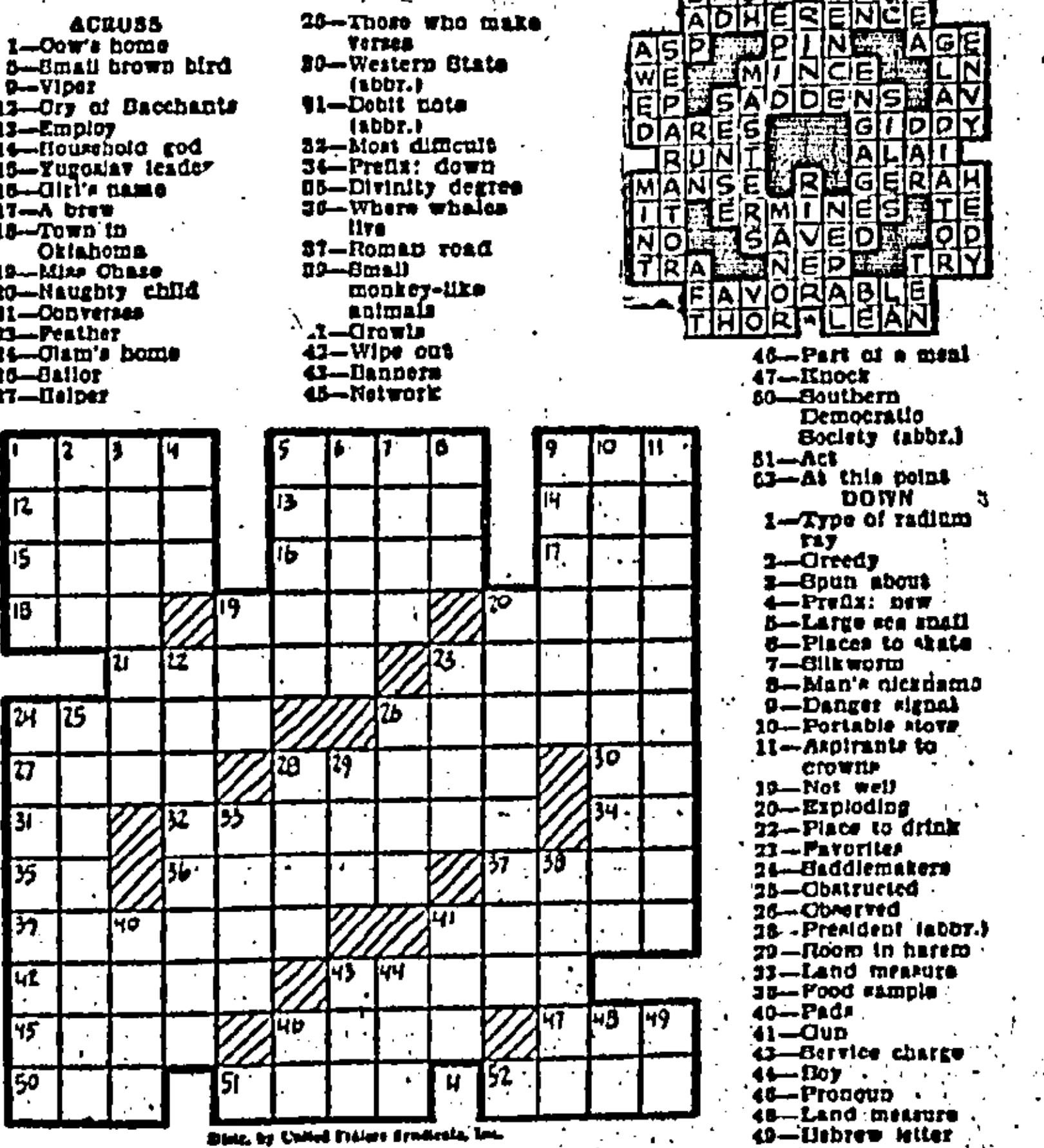
Several large theatres in Czechoslovakia have asked for rights to produce some of the outstanding American operas—Including Marc Blitzstein's "Cradle Will Rock," which had a successful New York production; Gian-Carlo Menotti's "The Old Maid and The Thief," and Virgil Thompson's "Four Saints in Three Acts," with text by the late Gertude Stein.

The leading orchestras in Budapest are now ready to perform American music at any time.

From Warsaw also comes an urgent demand for scores of the latest popular semi-classical music and negro spirituals, as well as the music of Cole Porter, Irving Berlin and George Gershwin.

Similar requests have come from Finland, Norway, France, Sweden, Yugoslavia and the Netherlands.—Associated Press.

Crossword Puzzle



Epic Work To Give Displaced Persons Hope For Future

As soon as World War II ended in Europe, Britain's voluntary societies, all under the protection of UNRRA, but each of them responsible for their own members, began to send volunteers over to the Continent to work in the British zone. To-day there are 800 of these people belonging to 17 different voluntary societies doing relief work, as well as many other workers from all the Allied nations in other parts of Europe.

Among these 800 there are 450 British subjects and of these the majority are women. At the time these women undertook their pilgrimage to Holland, Belgium and Germany, there were very few men available although there were certain units consisting of conscientious objectors (who have done some truly remarkable work) and Quakers.

In groups of 10 and 12 the women started their tremendous work. Each group took complete charge of a camp or group of camps, assembly centres or villages where the displaced persons had been left in the most humiliating and shocking conditions. The first job was to make the camp or centre habitable, to improve the sanitary and health conditions, to provide doctors and nurses, to start clinics, sick bays, schools and recreational centres.

This task even now is not completed, because the conditions are continually being improved, but after a short time the camps and settlements were in sufficiently good order to enable the workers to begin to prepare the unfortunate people living there for a new life, for repatriation or resettlement.

To begin with, these men, women and children had to be led back to family life and to some semblance of normal conditions. Here the admirable spirit of these tormented folk helped the workers to an almost incredible extent. The instinct to survive had been demonstrated throughout the long years of their captivity; now the workers saw the deep-seated belief of mankind in kindness and truth slowly but surely reviving.

After they had made some slight physical recovery, some of these victims of what has been probably the world's most horrible tyranny offered to undertake the education of the children.

Schoolrooms Crowded

Again the workers saw something which uplifted their hearts. These children, who had been without any schools and any knowledge—except of the most distressing kind—for most of their remembered years, crowded eagerly into the tiny rooms which had been prepared as schoolrooms. Every day you could see teachers surrounded by groups of listening children. At first they were taught without books, paper, pencils and without even a blackboard. But the children assimilated the knowledge eagerly.

Later the workers provided the schools and camps with as much in the way of books and writing material as they could get although these were not easy to procure at first. Yet, little by little, the contingents from Britain with the help of the people at home, built up the equipment in their zone, while in other zones similar work continued.

The most remarkable fact in this big crusade for the rehabilitation and re-education of so many thousands of people was the ability of women workers to improvise in any circumstances. They were faced with the strangest and most unusual situations arising from the unnatural herding of people in camps and settlements. No theoretical training in social work could anticipate the inhuman reality.

Delicate Handling

There was much to be considered. Not only the ordinary camp work had to be done and the care of children and adults carried on—and this was achieved admirably as the results proved—but much more was needed. The incredible problems which had

SIDE GLANCES

By Galbraith



"The only thing the mailman brought was the paper, mom—it says here the atom will open up a new world of modern comfort and convenience!"

HELICOPTER'S MILITARY POSSIBILITIES

WELSH NEWSLETTER
By J. C. Griffith Jones.

Before the war the Services, particularly the Army, had begun to take an interest in the military possibilities of the helicopter. By the end of the war its development had reached a stage where its use in the Services became a practical proposition.

During the war, owing to Britain's agreement with the USA that she should lend the Americans her helicopter knowledge and experts while she concentrated her resources in other directions, there are now no British helicopters in production, though a number of firms are producing prototypes.

There are, however, a small number of American Sikorsky helicopters in Britain, and a decision has been taken to leave some of them for training purposes.

It is necessary for the pilots and ground crews to receive adequate instruction in this type of machine, which in many respects is completely different from orthodox aircraft and requires expert knowledge to fly and service. Training is expected to be completed in three to four months.

When pilots become proficient, tactical trials with Sikorsky Hoverflies will be held under the direction of the Air Ministry and War Office. Two other Hoverflies will be issued to the Air-Sea Warfare Department Unit for investigation into their possibility for rescue work. All the pilots of this flight will be Royal Artillery officers, while the ground crew will be provided by the RAF.

The results of these trials will provide information not only for the Services, but also for the Ministry of Supply, in deciding future types of helicopter.

DRIED FRUIT EXPERIMENTS

The technique of fruit drying recently carried out by the Food Investigation Board of Britain's Department of Scientific and Industrial Research has increased the range of possible dried fruit products. Not only can high quality dried fruit be produced for normal uses but delicious new sweetments in the form of fruit powders and fruit nuggets are now possible by a method of drying to low water-content. In particular, a vastly improved fruit bar suitable for use in dry emergency rations can be made.

In the process, ordinary dried fruit of 15 to 20 percent water is further dehydrated after mincing to a lower moisture content of five to eight percent. Before the first or final dehydration the fruit is treated with a mixture of glycerol and sugar with the result that it can be mixed with dry powdered fruits, yielding bars of low water-content with a variety of textures.

The flavour and colour of the fruit is maintained even after a lengthy storage in tropical climates.

Transmitters For South Africa

Six new transmitters are required by the South African Broadcasting Corporation for the expansion of its broadcasting service. Despite strong American competition the contract was placed with Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Company of E. I. company has now supplied 300 transmitters to more than 30 countries.

British receiving sets are also in great demand throughout the world. 35,000 radio sets were exported from Britain during the month of July alone—five times the pre-war number over a corresponding period.

Low-Temperature Technology

Research into the field of low-temperature technology at the Imperial College of Science and Technology in London was revealed recently at a meeting of the Low Temperature Group.

After tackling and solving a variety of problems during World War II, the Department extended its scope with the end of hostilities.

Among the many activities of the Department at present is the investigation into a method of purifying gases from small quantities of condensable constituents by injecting a stream of cold pure gas.

While this factors influencing the adhesion of frozen particles to tube walls are also the subject of experiment.

The properties of lubricants at low temperatures is being investigated by the technical staff, and apparatus has been designed and built which will determine the latent heat of vaporization of binary mixtures at low temperatures and pressures above atmospheric.

France Wants Loan From Australia

Canberra, Dec. 10. France is trying to get a loan from Australia, otherwise she cannot maintain her place as Australia's third best customer, M. Pierre Augé, the French Minister to the Commonwealth, said here to-day.

He added there was an unsatisfactory discrepancy in the balance of trade between the two countries.

France's purchasing power was bound up in her economic recovery and this was largely dependent on material and financial assistance from her principal suppliers, he asserted.

The United States, in granting a further large loan, had lifted the restrictions which might have impeded the sale of French goods and Canada and the Argentine had also granted credit facilities, but the position remained acute in the sterling area, despite British assistance.

The article said blown bridges might be contaminated with persistent chemicals, virus or bacteria. It also said mines would have extremely fuses and would send out radioactive debris.

INCREASE OF AMERICAN HOUSEHOLDS

The United States Census Bureau says that when the decades ends in 1950, these two things will have happened to American households:—15,000 new ones will be formed, and 9,000,000 of the old ones will be broken up.

Thus there will be a net gain of 900,000 households.

In Census Bureau parlance, a household is a head of a family plus relatives, lodgers and others living under the same roof and sharing common household arrangements, says United Press. The total number of U.S. families in 1950 is estimated at 41,000,000.

The reason for the big increase in the number of families is the record marriage rate in the past few years—2,000,000 a year. This is 50 per cent higher than in the late 1930's. Many of the newly-married couples have postponed establishing new households until more housing is available and their economic situation is better.

The reasons for breaking up of 9,000,000 households are chiefly death and divorce.

NAAFI'S PEAK TURNOVER

At the half-yearly meeting of the Council of NAAFI held in November, the balance sheet as at September 1, 1945, and the revenue account for the year ended on that date were approved.

The turnover for the year was approximately £182,000,000, a peak figure for the war period and the highest trading return in the history of NAAFI. Subsequently the turnover has gradually declined and to-day it is at the rate of £110,000,000 per annum.

The revenue account showed that after payment of rebate and discount and expenditure on special amenities for the Forces (£340,637) there was a net revenue for the year of £8,045,833 which in agreement with the Services was disposed of as follows:

NAAFI/ENSA entertainment £4,004,734; Grants to Navy, Army and RAF welfare and benevolent funds £2,742,000; Combined Services Entertainment £400,000, with £39,099 carried forward.

NO SWEETS OR CAKES FOR THIS 4-YEAR-OLD

Sweets, cakes and all things that matter most to children, are barred to four-year-old Patsy Didrich. Her meals consist of strained fruit and vegetable juice day after day.

Two years ago Patsy developed the mysterious coeliac disease, the treatment for which is this rigid diet. She has just left a London hospital after many months and returned home.

Her mother spent several days at the hospital studying the special diet. Now she cannot feed the little invalid properly because it is impossible to buy a fruit juice extracting machine to pulp and strain the fruit and vegetables.

Sasha (Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Families' Association) was asked to come to the rescue, since Patsy's father, an electrician, is an ex-Sergeant who served with the Royal Artillery for 4½ years during the war; and without the machine it is impossible to maintain Patsy's special diet and keep up the improvement which she has made in hospital.

Sasha issued press appeal for the machine.

London Telephone Services

London's telephone services, severely restricted during World War II, are undergoing a new process of development. For this purpose equipment is being concentrated in Faraday House in London.

Housed here are the London trunk exchange, the overseas exchange which serves non-European countries through various radio links, the toll exchange serving a wide area around the capital, and the automatic City and Central exchanges.

Over half of the 4,000 personnel are women and about 600 are engineers working on maintenance and supervision of equipment. Each week over 2,000,000 calls are dealt with.

Counterfeit Notes In Paris

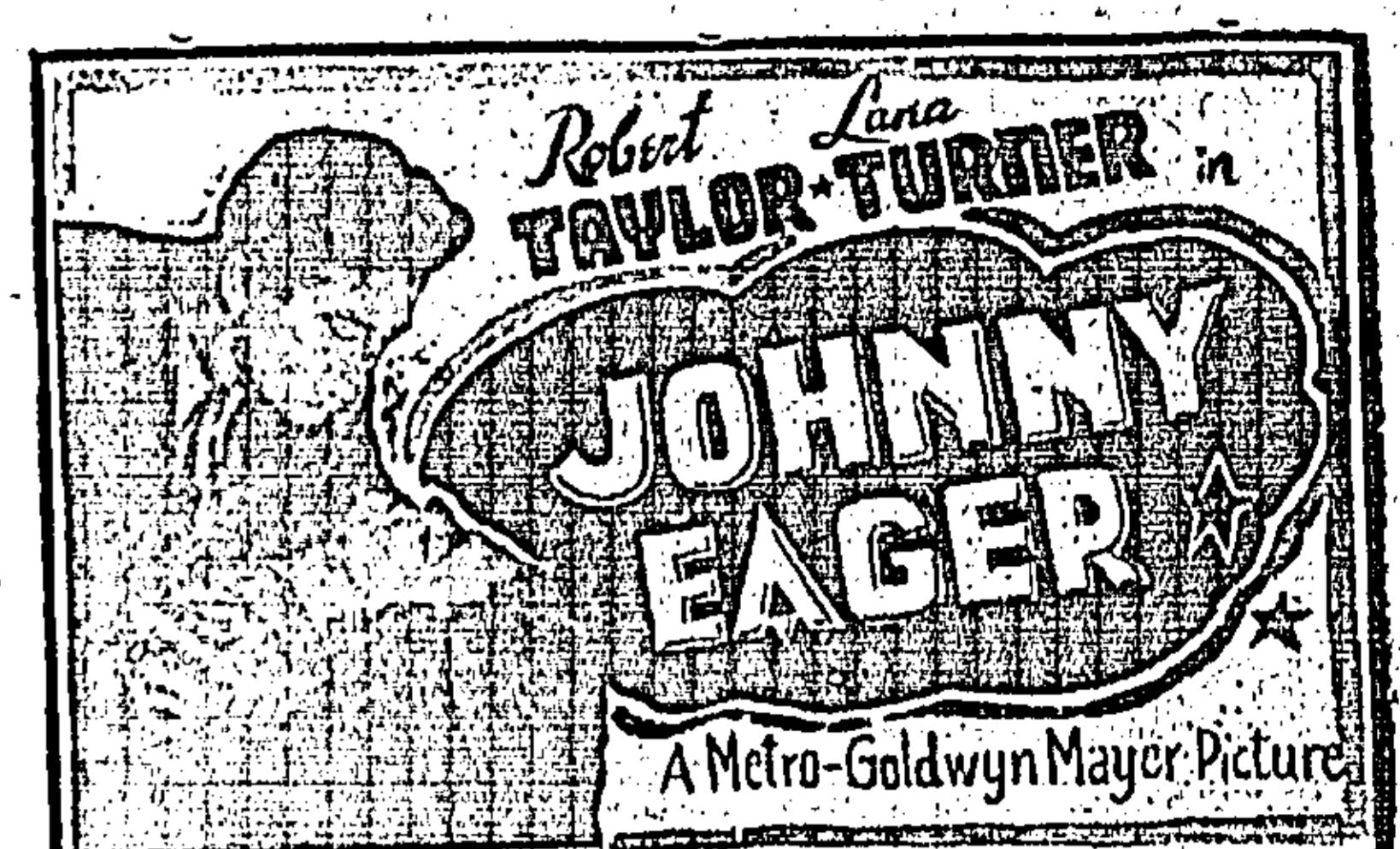
Paris, Dec. 10. The American Army authorities in Paris have called in a Treasury expert to try to check the flood of forged dollar bills in the French capital, it was disclosed to-day.

A gang is said to have inflated the black market to the extent of one million dollars, mostly in well counterfeited \$500 notes.—Reuter.

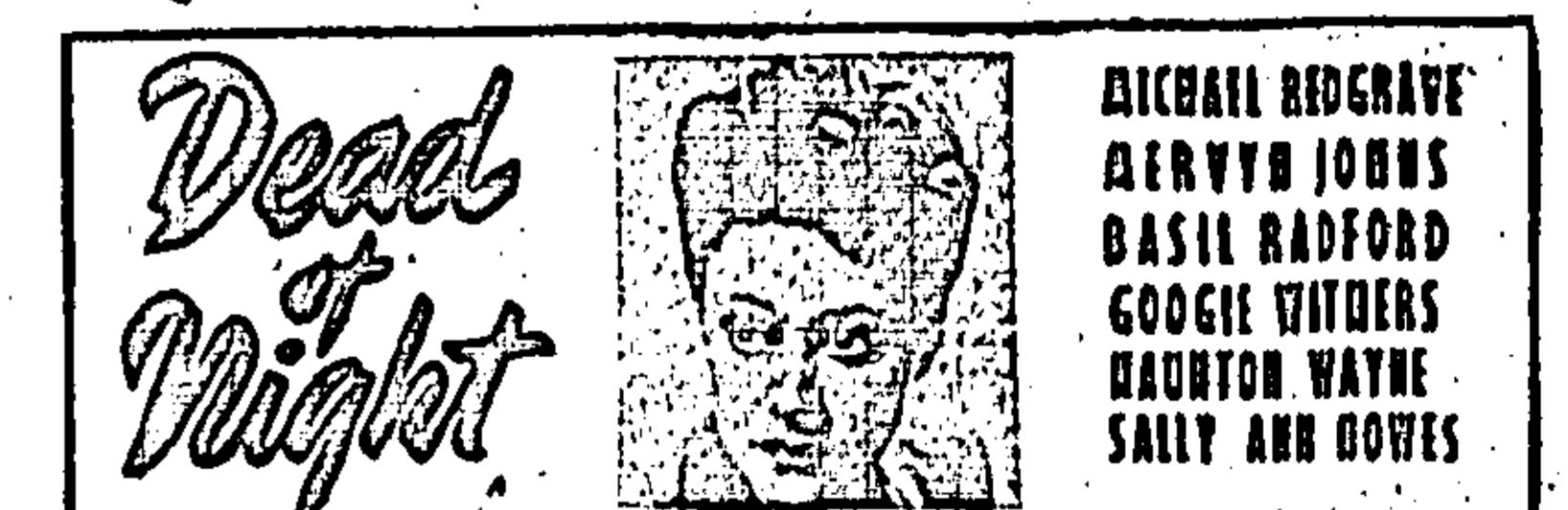
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"THEY WERE SISTERS" * COMMENCING FRIDAY
THE BEST OF "BEST TEN" IN 1945
IN "WILSON" TECHNICOLOR

DEATH RAILWAY MEMORIAL

London, Dec. 10. A ceremony to commemorate the men who died during the construction of the Burma-Siam railway will be held on December 18 at Thanbyuzayat—the beginning of the railway on the Burma side, 45 miles south of Moulmein.

Altogether over 13,500 British, Australian and Dutch subjects lost their lives. The estimates of Burmese in-bourners who died is around 80,000.—Reuter.

600 Chinese Coming From Canada

Accused of conspiring with foreign Powers against the State, Mourid was expected to be hanged for taking up arms with his own private army to fight the Government.

His two sons—Isa is the father of the Chinese Martine Customs Service. Employment is also offered to men experienced in navigation involved at the Office of Chinese Martine Customs, Queen's Road, Central.

Salman el Mourid, who was condemned to death by a court at Lattakia to-day, and his son Isa, who was arrested at once that his execution was hurried—he no longer wanted to live.

No sooner had the court pronounced sentence than the onetime shepherd boy, called a common buccaneer by the prosecution, announced he now preferred death to life and wanted to die quickly.

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CAMBODIA GOVERNMENT

Paris, Dec. 10. Prince Monireth, Prime Minister of Cambodia, to-day handed his Government's resignation to King Sihanouk, who asked him to form a new government, according to a French Press Agency despatch.—Reuter.

San Paolo, Dec. 10. The prosecutor acting against Japanese terrorists naked that hundreds of them were expelled from Brazil immediately. Those who are naturalized Brazilian citizens must have their naturalization annulled, the prosecutor said.—United Press.

